

Fremont Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
DRAFT MINUTES

Attendance: Janice O'Brien, Jack Karcz, Tina Sturdivant, Jean Ragonese, Matthew Thomas, Larry Lubowsky, Jessica Lubowsky, Kenn Jones, Bill Johnson and Noreen Johnson.

The meeting began at 7:15 PM.

Mr. Thomas made a motion to accept minutes from February 5, 2008 as written. Mrs. Ragonese seconded the motion.

**Glen Oakes**

Management Plan – Mrs. Obrien brought copies of GPS and Satellite maps and the preliminary draft of the Glen Oakes Management Plan to look through. This information was given to the Conservation Commission by Charlie Moreno at one of their last meetings. The plan shows projects that Mr. Moreno will be working on in the next three months. Mrs. O'Brien felt that this committee would be great for giving suggestions and recommendations for Mr. Moreno to put into the Management Plan. Mrs. O'Brien stated she would inform the members of the Open Space Committee of any meeting between the Conservation Commission and Mr. Moreno happening in the future, so anyone interested may attend.

Woodlot Walk - On May 3, 2008, the Rockingham County Woodlot Owners Association will host a walk in Glen Oakes. The Woodlot Owners Association has asked a naturalist (uncertain of who it is) to lead the tour. Committee members of the committee members were invited to come and assist with the walk. Anyone interest should meet at the end of Andreski Drive at 8:15. Coffee will be available beginning around 8:30.

Glen Oakes Monitoring - The monthly monitoring of Glen Oakes has been going well. The comments and observations are providing a great way to keep track of what is going on with in Glen Oakes over time.

Mrs. Sturdivant walked Glen Oakes in March and reported observing a trail being opened up by using a chain saw to cut apart a downed tree. Mrs. Obrien suggested that Mrs. Sturdivant contact Chief Neal Janvrin to report the incident. Mrs. Sturdivant stated she would contact the Chief in the morning.

There is still a need to replace the Town Forest Ordinance Sign that was cut down and removed back in November. There was a discussion relative to replacing the post with a metal sign post rather than using a wooden post to prevent removal again. Mrs. Sturdivant offered to contact Guerwood Holmes about where the Committee could get a post and how much it would cost.

On April 19, 2008, members decided to meet at 9:00 AM to re-tape trees indicating property boundaries within Glen Oakes.

Glen Oakes Mapping – A neighbor near Glen Oakes has walked in and used GPS technology to map coordinates for the trails in Glen Oakes using GPS. He has provided both a Google Earth Map and a Satellite Map of the trails. This information will be used to create trail maps for the public in the future.

#### **Open Space Activities/Tours Brainstorming**

**B-52 Walk:** Mr. Thomas volunteered to lead walk to B-52 crash site at the last meeting. The walk was originally planned for May 3, 2008. There was a discussion about moving the walk to the fall of this year to avoid wet conditions due to the spring melt and high water level. The consensus was to push this activity into the fall. Mrs. Obrien asked the committee to decide upon a tentative date. There was a suggestion to combine this walk with a foliage walk. October 4, 2008 at 10:00 was proposed as the rescheduled date; and October 5, 2008 will be the rain date.

**Turtle Walk-** Mrs. O'Brien reported that she tried to contact Mr. West about a leading a turtle walk, but she has not heard back from him as of yet. Mrs. Sturdivant suggested contacting Frank Mitchell from the Cooperative Extension, who is also involved with Bear Paw who hosts an annual turtle walk.

**Loon Pond** -Walk around Loon Pond, possibly combined with viewing the Heron Rookery.

**Rail trail Walk** – Walk to point out the site of the old covered bridge and other historical sites and interesting facts about the rail trail.

**Golf Frisbee activity** -. Will look into this for a potential fun activity.

**Scavenger Treasure Hunt** – Fun activity geared for younger kids to learn about what is in the Glen Oakes and awarding prizes for whoever finds the most items on the hunt. Mrs. Sturdivant suggested contacting businesses to try and get prize donations. Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Sturdivant are attending the Saving Special Places Conservation Workshop this Saturday and are scheduled to attend a Treasure Hunt activity planning course. They will gather information at that meeting and figure out what can be done. Early June was proposed as a time to host this activity, before EEE season.

**Vernal Pool Workshop** - Mrs. Sturdivant thought she could contact Patrick Seekamp about getting information and displays to use at a town sponsored vernal pool workshop. Mrs. Ragonese stated that she had a vernal pool on her property that she would be willing to open up to such an event. More information to come if this activity is possible.

Mrs. Johnson asked if the science teacher from Fremont elementary school could be a resource to help in planning activities or lessons within Glen Oakes. Mr. Jones stated that many agencies have free lesson plans that can be used to create activities for teaching kids. Mrs. O'Brien indicated that she utilized Fish and Game when she was involved with Cub Scouts.

Mrs. Johnson asked about the land prospects within town. Mrs. Obrien stated that the land projects are moving slowly. Mrs. Johnson asked if anyone was still in contact with the interested land owners. Mrs. O'Brien responded that she, Mr. Karcz, and Mike Speltz are all in contact with the landowners.

The next meeting will take place on June 3, 2008 on the main floor of the Fremont Town Hall.

Mr. Lubowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas.

The meeting ended 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Sturdivant